



Air Force Research Laboratory | AFRL

Science and Technology for Tomorrow's Aerospace Forces

Success Story

DIRECTED ENERGY DIRECTORATE DONATES REFURBISHED COMPUTERS TO LOCAL SCHOOLS



A new generation of technically literate youth is important not only to the Air Force, but also to the nation. Through the Air Force Research Laboratory Technology Equipment for Kids project, the Directed Energy and Space Vehicles Directorates at Kirtland AFB, New Mexico are doing their part to assure the United States (US) retains the advantages in technology it enjoys today.



Air Force Research Laboratory
Wright-Patterson AFB OH

Accomplishment

Since 1996, the Directed Energy and Space Vehicles Directorates have had an Education Partnership Agreement with New Mexico Technet, Inc. Under this agreement, the directorates transfer surplus computer equipment deemed educationally useful to New Mexico Technet, Inc. Technet personnel examine, upgrade, and distribute these computers, and other computers donated from other government and private industry, to primary and secondary schools for use in technology education.

Recently, New Mexico Technet, Inc. donated its 20,000th computer to the Santa Fe Indian School. The New Mexico Legislature appropriated over \$2M to New Mexico Technet, Inc. for the refurbishment of technology equipment for kids such as that transferred by the directorates. In addition, Intel® donated over 10,000 computer processors for use in upgrading computer equipment. To date, the directorates have donated personal computers, monitors, laptop computers, and printers worth over \$3M.

Background

Educating the next generation of scientists and engineers is critical to maintain US technological strength through the coming decades. Such training begins in elementary and secondary schools. Through the Technology Equipment for Kids project, AFRL directorates hope to spur an interest in math, science, and technology among young, and sometimes disadvantaged, students by supplying older-model computers to their schools. Under presidential authority of the Education Partnership Act, laboratory directors may supply research equipment to educational institutions or nonprofit organizations for the conduct of technical and scientific education and research.

Additional information

To receive more information about this or other activities in the Air Force Research Laboratory, contact TECH CONNECT, AFRL/XPTT, (800) 203-6451 and you will be directed to the appropriate laboratory expert. (01-DE-01)